

Redstone Rocket

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July 3, 2007

Around town

Local
chapter
turning
page
Page 4



Over there



Family awaits sons' return
Page 10

At ease

Ex-Navy
athlete
represents
Army
Page 14



Center stage



Celebrating
the military
Page 20

Win or lose



National Guard
gets redemption
Page 22

Welcome to Redstone, SMDC

*Headquarters arrives
and uncases colors*

By SKIP VAUGHN
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The headquarters for the Space and Missile Defense Command has officially arrived from Arlington, Va.

SMDC commander Lt. Gen. Kevin Campbell and his new top enlisted Soldier, Command Sgt. Maj. Ralph Borja, uncased the command's flag during a ceremony June 26 at Bob Jones Auditorium.

The headquarters came to Redstone under the Base Realignment and Closure actions. Thirty-three people are to move here as part of the 180 jobs, including 80 contractor positions. The other 147 jobs are to be recruited locally.

"I guess BRAC becomes something of a reality today. It's a four-letter word for many communities," Campbell said during the ceremony. "If there was a gold medal winner, an Olympic champion of BRAC, it's Huntsville, Ala., so my congratulations for you today."

Campbell said he and his wife, Kathy, are excited to be here. "Certainly the people throughout the entire Tennessee Valley have been more than welcoming," he said.

Borja also expressed his appreciation for this assignment. "Both my wife (Nguyet) and I are honored and pleased to be in such a great community as Redstone Arsenal as well as Huntsville, Ala.," he said.

Borja was born in Agana, Guam. He enlisted in the Army upon graduating from high school in 1979 and completed basic training and advanced individual training at Fort Benning, Ga. He has served in the Army more than 27 years in various Airborne Ranger and Light Infantry assignments throughout the United States and overseas.

Campbell assumed command in December of the Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command. The Boston native graduated from Worcester State College in 1973 with a bachelor's of science degree; and he was commissioned into the Air Defense Artillery branch that year. In 1982 he earned a master's in personnel management from the University of New Hampshire.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

RECEPTION— From left are SMDC commander Lt. Gen. Kevin Campbell, his wife Kathy, Command Sgt. Maj. Ralph Borja and his wife Nguyet.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

UNFURLING FLAG— The Space and Missile Defense Command flag is unfurled during the ceremony June 26 at Bob Jones Auditorium.

An open lane random survey

What will you do on the Fourth of July?

By SKIP VAUGHN

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Bryan Lorge
AMCOM Safety Office
"I'm going to be going to a Stars game and celebrating with fireworks at the Stars game."

Sgt. Thomas Champion
AMCOM Command Group
"I'll try to stay safe. Find some fireworks and enjoy some time with my family."



Teresa Smith
PEO Missiles and Space



"I'm going to the beach (Orange Beach, Fla.) with family. My family lives in New Orleans and we don't get together very often. So, Fourth of July at the beach is a tradition."

Lorenza Bodie
PEO Missiles and Space
"I'll be spending time with family. Of course we might end up going out of town, too, going south to Mobile which is home."



Quote of the week

'Not everything that is faced can be changed, but nothing can be changed until it is faced.'

— James A. Baldwin

Give to save military lives

Everyone knows that donating blood could save the lives of three people; not everyone knows that if the military has to buy blood it can cost around \$250 per unit. In my opinion, the military should never have to pay for blood, on the principle that America owes its fighting men and women who have spilled so much of it for them. I support saving lives through blood donation and as a Soldier, I support the military. So for me, the natural choice is to give blood to the people that we owe it to — our servicemembers.

The Redstone Arsenal community has a unique opportunity to donate blood that goes directly to Soldiers, Marines, Sailors and Airmen supporting the Global War on Terrorism. On July 17 and 18 from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m., the Armed Services Blood Program staff will be waiting at the Redstone Fitness Center for those willing and able to donate blood and save a troop's life.

The Armed Services Blood Program was developed to make sure there is enough blood to support military treatment facilities and emergencies. They have sent more than 61,000 blood products that

have been used in transfusions in OIF and OEF. That means this program has helped save the lives of more than 60,000 servicemembers fighting overseas. ASBP also provides blood to military facilities within the states which support family members, veterans and troops stationed across the U.S. In my opinion, there is no better way to support the troops than to donate blood to ASBP.

As a country at war, many of our servicemembers who want to donate are not able to because of recent deployments. So I'm asking you to please help spread the word. Call your wife, your cousin, your friends, your neighbors, and tell them about the ASBP blood drive and the importance of its mission. If you are just too busy and don't want to have to wait in line, you can go to www.militaryblood.dod.mil and schedule an appointment so you don't have to wait. On the same web site you will find more facts and information on ASBP that may help you further understand the mission. If you have any questions about the blood drive, please call 876-9754. Thanks and we hope to see you there.

Sgt. Eliamar Trapp

Thanks to Korean War vets

On Sunday, June 24, in memory of the 57th anniversary of the beginning of the Korean War, about 35 veterans and their spouses were honored by Hyun's Korean Garden Restaurant. Korean War veterans were given a special thank you gift from International Baptist Church of Huntsville, the choir sang "America the Beautiful" and Korean Folk song.

See Korea on page 3



Photo by AeJoo Kim
VETERANS MEAL— About 35 Korean War veterans and their spouses are treated to a buffet style luncheon June 24.

Asking for change in store

I just have a question concerning the Military Clothing Sales Store. Since when have we had to produce an ID card to receive change? I recently went to the clothing sales store to make change for a 10 dollar bill. I understand that civilians are not authorized to make purchases there and that they are not allowed to open the register drawer without a transaction, which is totally understandable. But when I was there a patron was in front of me making a purchase with cash. I asked the cashier if I could get change for a 10 before she opened her drawer so I could buy a soda from the machine outside. After the patron paid for his items, she abruptly shut her drawer and said I had to have an ID card for her to give me change. To make change! What's up with that? It's not like I was trying to purchase anything. I just wanted a five and five ones. I work at Pagano Gym and have been getting change from that store for the last 20 years. I had no idea that the policy has changed so much.

Joe Reed
Pagano Gym

Editor's note: Post Exchange general manager Carl Carpenter provided the following response. "Thank you for your comment in reference to the Military Clothing Sales Store. There is no requirement to show an ID card just to receive change. I apologize for the occasion you were treated improperly. Rest assured we do not condone disinterested or discourteous behavior by any associate. One of our major concerns is to provide prompt and courteous service. Zuhail Stiles, our new Military Clothing Sales manager, recently provided training to all sales associates on the proper method of assisting customers. Hopefully, you will see an improvement in service the next time you visit our store for change."

Think before stealing from garden plots

This letter is addressed to the individual or individuals responsible for the theft and vandalism that is occurring at the community garden plots on Redstone Arsenal.

The MWR office leases these plots to individuals for the purpose of growing personal fruits, vegetables and flowers. Each person, family or group that leases these invests a significant amount of time and money to grow things for use by their families and friends. This area has no fences, and those who lease these plots have nothing except an honor system to ensure that plants and associated

See Garden on page 3

Redstone Rocket

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Getting to know you

By SKIP VAUGHN
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Job: Logistics management specialist, Precision Fires Rocket and Missile Systems Project Office

Where do you call home?
Bozeman, Mont.

What do you like about your job?
I like to help the Soldier in the field. That's the ultimate goal here — helping support the Soldier in the field.

What do you like to do in your spare time?
I enjoy motorcycle riding, traveling, working on my home and yard. And following sports — just about all sports, you know football, baseball and basketball.

What are your goals?
To provide for my family and do a good job for the government.

What's your favorite type of music?
Country music



Crimes, accidents and other occurrences

The Provost Marshal Office provided the following list of reported incidents:

June 22: An individual stopped at Gate 9 and had two different identifications. Further investigation revealed that she had committed forgery and identity theft. She was arrested and processed for appearance into the Federal Magistrate Court. Investigation continues by the Redstone CID office and the local FBI office.

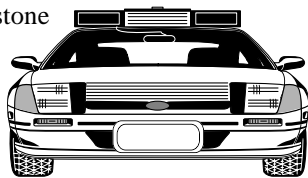
June 25: An individual was found to be operating his motor vehicle with a suspended driver's license at Gate 8, while attempting to enter the Arsenal. He was issued a violation notice and released.

June 26: An individual was found to be operating his motor vehicle with a suspended driver's license during an inspection at Gate 10. He was issued a violation notice and released.

June 26: An individual was observed in the Post Exchange selecting several items, concealing them and then leaving without rendering the proper payment. The individual was arrested by the Redstone Police, processed and later found to be in wrongful possession of an ID card. The ID card was confiscated; and the subject was issued two court summons and released. Investigation continues by the Redstone Investigations Section.

Traffic accidents reported: two without injuries, none with injuries.

Violation notices issued: 20 speeding, 1 failure to obey traffic control device, 2 driving with a suspended driver's license, 1 unsafe driving, 2 improper backing, 1 parked in a no parking zone, 1 parked in a handicapped space, 1 failure to use seatbelt, 2 cell phone violation.



THAAD missile passes flight test

The Terminal High Altitude Area Defense missile had a successful test June 26 at White Sands Missile Range, N.M.

The test involved the launch and “fly-out” of a THAAD interceptor missile in a highly-stressing low-endosphere (inside the atmosphere) environment. This was the lowest altitude fly-out of a THAAD interceptor to date, and demonstrated its ability to operate in a high-dynamic pressure environment with aero heating effects.

An initial review indicated that the planned flight test objectives were achieved. This test did not involve a target, and was a controlled flight test intended to verify missile design and performance in a low-endoatmospheric environment.

This was the final THAAD interceptor mission planned for White Sands Missile Range, as all future tests will take place at the Pacific Missile Range Facility, Kauai, Hawaii. (*Missile Defense Agency release*)

Heat savvy can save lives

By LORI YERDON
Army Combat Readiness Center

FORT RUCKER — As hot weather poses potential risk to Soldiers and family members alike, individuals need to realize that heat injury prevention is not only a command and leadership responsibility, but a personal one too.

Heat injuries are avoidable yet can affect anyone. Individuals not use to hot weather, especially when it's combined with high humidity, are particularly susceptible. Young children, individuals with a long-term illness, and Soldiers that work in enclosed environments such as aircraft cockpits or vehicle interiors specially run the risk of becoming heat victims. The use of supplements may also increase the chance dehydration.

“Leaders and Soldiers must do more than just have water available,” said Col. John Campbell, Army Combat Readiness Center command surgeon. “Using com-

posite risk management to assess and mitigate the potential health effects Soldiers might suffer during hot weather is critical.”

According to the Army's Office of the Surgeon, 220 heat stroke cases were documented in 2006; of those, 57 Soldiers were hospitalized, 163 were outpatients, and two died. The injuries happened both in garrison and operational environments, and occurred during physical fitness training and testing, training exercises, and other activities including recreational exertion and non-exercising activities.

The best defense against a heat-related incident is prevention. Before engaging in an outdoor activity or mission in the heat, the identification and assessment of potential hazards, such as a high heat category or the physical exertion level of the activity, can reduce an individual's chance of becoming a victim of heatstroke, heat exhaustion or heat cramps.

■ Restaurant honors veterans Korea

continued from page 2

It was such an honor to meet Korean War veterans; and personally thanking them was a special moment for all who were there. Among several Purple Heart recipients there, we met a veteran Dr. Ralph Cloud who lost his right leg during the Korean War. We also met a grandson of retired Maj. Gen. William Webb. Capt. David Webb will be leaving for Iraq for the fourth time. Praying for young Capt. Webb was a blessing.

The veterans were treated to a buffet style luncheon filled with Korean cuisine, and received many thanks from the hosts for the sacrifices they made. Hyun's Korean Garden Restaurant promised to carry on this event annually with more gifts and more entertainment. If anyone knows Korean War veterans, please provide contact information to K.C. Bertling via e-mail kum.bertling@us.army.mil or phone 541-0450. The next Korean War veterans luncheon will be on Monday, June 23, 2008.

K.C. Bertling

■ Garden thieves should reconsider actions

Garden

continued from page 2

items are not damaged or stolen. Sadly, there have been increasing instances of thievery and vandalism at the garden, and to those who are responsible for these acts, I ask you to consider the following:

If you are a uniformed service-member (of any gender, service or country), you should reconsider your actions. If you are unable to make the right moral choice in such a small matter, how will you muster the courage to make hard decisions under real stress?

If you are a civilian employee of the United States government, you should reconsider your actions.

While your particular choices may not have the same life or death consequences as our Soldiers, you are still trusted with significant portions of the public's trust and resources. If you are so easily distracted by this temptation, how will you handle your next true ethical challenge?

If you are a contractor on the Arsenal, you should reconsider your actions. If you are caught (and many people are now more aware of this problem), you will lose your job, and the people you work for and with could also suffer as a result of your actions.

If you are a dependent of a military member on this post, you should reconsider your actions. What you do can bring shame,

embarrassment and possibly other problems to your military sponsor.

These thefts are personal insults, criminal acts and deny paying MWR patrons the right to enjoy several months of hard work. It is particularly saddening that this is a problem on an active military base, where the actions of the one or few embarrass a larger population with much greater integrity.

If you are responsible for these unnecessary and unconscionable acts, I urge you to reconsider what you're doing. Carefully weigh your profit and your risk, and determine if the small amount of produce that you steal is worth what you (and possible others) could ultimately wind up paying.

Name withheld by request

Association's local chapter turns page

New president hopes to build on success

By KARI HAWKINS

Staff writer

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One of the Army's foremost principles – teamwork – is put into action whenever there is a gathering of members who make up the Redstone-Huntsville Chapter of the Association of the U.S. Army.

From such annual community

events as the Team Redstone Birthday Party, Department of the Army Civilian of the Year Dinner, Veterans Day Dinner, Armed Forces Celebration and Tactical Missile Conference to such special events as Welcome Home ceremonies for Soldiers, NCO and Soldier of the Year ceremonies, and Junior and Senior ROTC award ceremonies, the local AUSA chapter has garnered an international award-winning reputation for being a proactive group of veterans, community volunteers, business leaders, cor-

porations and community organizations committed to realizing the national organization's motto – "Voice for the Army ... Support for the Soldier."

And, its new president – retired Col. Mike Howell – plans to raise the bar even further through continuing to grow the chapter's membership, influence and support activities.

"It takes a team of people to make a difference," Howell said of AUSA's 2,800 general members, 270 corporate members, and the local military organizations and Soldiers it serves.

"It's the chapter's board and officers that really make things happen. We have got such wonderful people who are more than willing to support what we are doing. We all share a love of the U.S. and the Army, and we really love this community that we are privileged to live in. There is so much enthusiasm in this organization."

Howell's involvement in AUSA reaches back to his beginnings as a Soldier. While taking a mandatory ROTC class at Louisiana State University in the mid-1960s, Howell realized he had a special affinity for the Army.

"There was a huge group of us and I wanted to stand out from the rest," Howell said. "I learned about AUSA from some fraternity brothers. If I joined AUSA, I could wear a loop and chain on my left shoulder. Wearing something like that sets you apart visually from all the other freshman cadets on drill day."

But, Howell's interest in AUSA quickly went beyond the



Photo by Kari Hawkins

REACHING FOR EXCELLENCE— Retired Col. Mike Howell, the new president for the Redstone-Huntsville chapter of the Association of the U.S. Army, plans to raise the bar on the local chapter's activities as the area welcomes new commands and professionals who will be transferring here as a result of Base Realignment and Closure.

decorations he could add to his uniform. He found the organization's magazine interesting and compelling. After obtaining a two-year Army ROTC scholarship, he began seeing the Army as a viable career choice.

"I considered being a member

of AUSA as part of my professional development," Howell said. "The magazines told me about what's going on in the Army and the trends in the Army. It was very broadening."

See **Chapter** on page 9

Chapter officers for 2007-09

Redstone-Huntsville Chapter AUSA officers and board members for 2007-09 include:

- President Mike Howell, executive vice president Steve Taylor, treasurer Tammy Lawler, secretary Donna Palumbo, VP for special activities Bob Devlin, VP for membership Zig Roebuck, VP for member retention/education J.P. Ballenger, VP for corporate affairs Ancil Hicks, VP for public affairs Steve Wilson, VP for NCO/enlisted affairs Command Sgt. Maj. Ricky Yates, VP for National Guard affairs David Carney, VP for Army Reserve affairs John Perry, VP for DA civilian affairs Mark Umansky, VP for Army family support Jim Rountree, VP for retiree and veteran affairs Dave Seay, VP for Soldier affairs Bob Whiteford, VP for legislative affairs Paul Elliott, VP for Army recruiting affairs Bryan Henderson, VP for chapter support group activities Kris McBride, VP for chapter awards and recognition Mike Barefield, VP for satellite chapter affairs Claude Baldwin and chaplain Jim Henderson;

- Term expiring in 2008 — Ray Baker, Rod Bissell, Mike Carden, Steve Humphrey, Bill Tillman, Bill McCorkle, Bob Nathan, Jim Splawn and Greg Wilson;

- Term expiring in 2009 — Mark Dille, John Reitzell, Jake Jacobson, Richard Rhoades, Will Webb, Marc Jacobson, Tom Newberry, Jerry Hamilton and Bob Woods;

- Term expiring in 2010 — Loretta Spencer, Jeff Wishik, Mark Gerecht, Pam Caruso, Keith Freitag, Terry Tipton, John Blackmon, David Mathis and Jo Seay.

Soldier's niece dances into limelight

*Reality show dancer
has local connection*

By **KELLEY LANE-SIVLEY**
Staff writer
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If your family lives on the other side of the country, you may not get to see them often. Unless they are on television a couple of times a week, that is. One local couple gets to see their niece dance across the screen twice a week on the Fox



Photo by Kelley Lane-Sivley

AVID FANS— Every Wednesday and Thursday, Cathrin and Master Sgt. Doug Dalton settle in to watch their niece compete on “So You Think You Can Dance?”

Network’s reality show “So You Think You Can Dance?”

Master Sgt. Doug Dalton, who retires next month from AMCOM, and his wife, Cathrin, were excited to find out that their niece, Shauna Noland, had made it through the audition process for the show, but they weren’t really surprised.

“Out of 12,000 people that tried out, she made the top 20. She’s only 18 years old,” Cathrin said. “She started when she was 3 and has just about lived in a dance studio. She’s won competitions for her dancing and her choreography.”

Noland is the daughter of Cathrin’s sister, Sue. When she made the top 20, her aunt and uncle were thrilled. As the competition progresses though, it can be hard to listen to the occasional criticism of the judges and other viewers.

“She’s (Cathrin) had a hard time reading some of the things people write on the message boards,” Dalton said. “I tell her not to pay attention to it.”

The show pairs contestants who then dance as a couple on Wednesday of each week in styles literally drawn out of a hat. The routines are professionally choreographed to popular music. After each couple performs they are critiqued by the judges. Then at the end of the show, phone lines are opened so that viewers may call in and vote for the couple of their choice. Viewers are allowed to vote more than once and Cathrin makes the most out of that.

“I’ve watched every American Idol and I’ve never voted before. Probably because I never had a real connection with any of them,” Cathrin said laughing. “Now I’m voting – two hours worth of voting.”

See **Dancer** on page 8



Courtesy photo

ON TELEVISION— Shauna Noland dances her way into the top 20 of the “So You Think You Can Dance?” television show.

Letterkenny Army Depot showcases businesses



Courtesy photo

OUTSTANDING SERVICE— During the Showcase, Maj. Gen. Jim Pillsbury, commander of Aviation and Missile Command, presents Mike Ross with a Letterkenny Commander's Award for Outstanding Service. Mike Ross is the chairman of the Franklin County Area Development Corporation.

Industry partnerships importance stressed

CHAMBERSBURG, Pa. — More than 100 people representing 38 companies and 11 government and military organizations from across the nation recently attended the Letterkenny Business Opportunity Showcase.

The showcase is a cooperative venture of the Franklin County Area Development Corporation and the Greater Chambersburg Chamber of Commerce. It was co-chaired by Gov. Ed Rendell and Rep. Bill Shuster (9th District-Pa.).

Partnerships have been key to Letterkenny Army Depot's strength, and the depot hopes to develop existing relationships and form new ones. Public-private partnerships with companies like Lockheed Martin, JLG Industries and Melton Industries have helped increase the depot's value to the military and brought jobs to Letterkenny.

During the Business Opportunity Showcase dinner held May 30, Letterkenny commander Col. Robert Swenson and Maj. Gen. Jim Pillsbury, commander of the Aviation and Missile Command, presented four awards.

The Production Partner of the Year award was presented to Ron Abbott, Lockheed Martin general manager and vice president for missiles and fire control. This award was presented to a private sector partner for outstanding achievement at Letterkenny over the last 12 months. Lockheed Martin introduced the Target Acquisition

Designation Sight/Pilot Night Vision Sensor, the Modernized Target Acquisition Designation Sight and, in partnership with Raytheon, the Javelin Joint Venture, to the Letterkenny workload.

Gen. Benjamin Griffin, commander of Army Materiel Command, also attending the Business Opportunity Showcase, commented on partnerships. "The goal is to build upon these partnerships for the future. We could not do what we do without partnerships, and nowhere is it more evident than here at Letterkenny," he said.

In addition to Lockheed Martin, JLG Industries won the Award for Outstanding Corporate Support; Melton Industries won the Supplier of the Year Award and Mike Ross, chairman of Franklin County Area Development Corporation, won the Commander's Award for Exceptional Support.

Shuster, who sits on the House Armed Services Committee, summed up the importance of partnerships. "We need a highly integrated force to conquer the threat of terrorism. For this, we need new technology, and this is where Letterkenny and its partners come into play," Shuster said. *(Letterkenny release)*

Letterkenny receives heavy metal contribution

Pennsylvania community donates rail dock to depot

CHAMBERSBURG, Pa. — Letterkenny Army Depot commander Col. Robert Swenson presided over a ceremony May 30 that dedicated a heavy rail dock behind the fence in a secure area of the depot.

He was joined in the ribbon-cutting ceremony by Rep. Bill Shuster, Sen. Terry Punt and Gen. Benjamin Griffin, commander of Army Materiel Command.

In July 2005, Franklin County Area Development Corporation recommended that the Secretary of the Army accept an unsolicited gift to construct and donate a heavy rail

dock to the Army at Letterkenny. FCADC obtained funds through a grant from the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development.

The dock was accepted by the Secretary of the Army on April 4, 2006. The prime contractor was MSJS Inc., Landisville, Pa. The dock is now the property of the Army, having been completed in the spring 2007. The cost was approximately \$300,000.

The dock was designed to support a 65-ton vehicle load equivalent to a self-propelled howitzer or Bradley tank. About one-third of the cost paid for over 600 feet of new rail bed and rail siding to access the dock along with a connecting switch, plus site work to prepare the site, grading and

drainage to route water away plus a stabilized stone base to provide access to the dock.

Letterkenny previously owned a heavy rail dock, but it was located in an area of the depot that was declared excess in BRAC '95 and transferred to the Local Reuse Authority. This new heavy rail dock now permits rapid movement of heavy vehicles from Letterkenny onto railcars destined for ports on the Eastern Seaboard. Letterkenny has also been designated the inland node storage site for the Port of Philadelphia and this dock supports and facilitates loading/off-loading military vehicles and equipment coming to the depot for maintenance. *(Letterkenny release)*

Letterkenny gets superior award

CHAMBERSBURG, Pa. — Letterkenny Army Depot received the Army Superior Unit Award. A ceremony was held May 31 to honor employees.

The Army Superior Unit Award is awarded for outstanding meritorious performance of a unit during peacetime (defined as any period during which wartime or combat awards are not authorized in the geographical area in which the mission was executed) in a difficult and challenging mission under extraordinary circumstances. The unit must display such outstanding devotion and superior performance of exceptionally difficult tasks to set it apart from and above other units with similar missions.

Army Materiel Command commander Gen. Ben-

jamin Griffin and Aviation and Missile Command commander Maj. Gen. Jim Pillsbury participated in the ceremony with depot commander Col. Robert Swenson. They were joined by John Blake, executive deputy secretary of Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development, who read a congratulatory letter from Gov. Ed Rendell.

Looking out into a sea of employees and supporters of the depot from among the community, Griffin said: "This is your award. It is the Army equivalent of the Shingo prize (awarded twice to Letterkenny for manufacturing excellence). You earned it. Congratulations!" *(Letterkenny release)*

Television show dancer has local following

continued from page 6

The following night, the voting results are revealed on a live show. The three couples with the lowest number of votes are announced and then each of the six contestants must perform a solo routine for the judges. One male and one female contestant will then be selected for elimination from the competition by the judges. It is known as "dancing for your life." Noland survived the bottom six on the June 21 show. Her partner, however, did not. Cathrin said solo performance is where her niece really shines.

"They get to pick a piece of their own," she said. "She's great under pressure like that. She's awesome. There's a fire about her. When she knows it's all on the line she goes all out."

The Daltons are proud of Noland's performance thus far. They are also proud of how grounded she remains even in such an exciting and stressful environment.

"She has set realistic goals," Dalton said. "She said 'I don't expect to win it all but if I can make it to where I can go on the tour with them then I will be happy.'"

They hope she will go on to meet those goals and maybe even win the competition. Judges' comments give additional hope that she will be around for quite some time, although sufficient viewer votes can keep her out of the danger zone altogether, Cathrin said.

"Just watch her and see what she can do," she said. "America hasn't seen Shauna yet, not really."

Regardless of how things play out on the screen, they know big things are in store for the dancing teen. No matter how far she goes though, she will still be a cherished part of their family, Dalton said.

"She's my favorite niece," Dalton said. "She was the first baby I ever held."

"So You Think You Can Dance?" airs each Wednesday night at 7 and Thursdays at 8 p.m. on the Fox network. New episodes resume next week.

Chapter

continued from page 4

Even so, it wasn't until Howell spent time with Soldiers during his first assignment in Germany, that he realized he'd found a career he could enjoy for many years.

"I really liked this way of life, and the experiences and challenges it could offer me," he said. "The Army offered all kinds of things for me and my development, both personally and professionally."

Though he enjoyed AUSA membership throughout his military career, Howell's participation in the organization was minimal due to Army commitments. He did, however, attend the AUSA national meeting in the mid-1980s, where he met many Army leaders, attended educational symposiums and enjoyed the exhibits. Once assigned to Redstone Arsenal, Howell had the opportunity to learn about what AUSA chapters do at the local level.

"The last nine years of my active duty, I was in command positions in Huntsville," Howell said. "During that time, I was exposed to the local AUSA chapter and its activities. When I retired, one of my goals was to get on board with AUSA so that I had an opportunity to pay back for the wondrous years I had in the Army. AUSA

gave me a chance to serve, a chance to give a little something back from my experience in the Army."

Howell, who is now the market development manager for Army programs at Northrop Grumman Technical Services in Huntsville, has volunteered with the local AUSA chapter as newsletter editor, special activities director and executive vice president.

As president, Howell is especially excited about the opportunity to expand AUSA in North Alabama through satellite chapters. The Redstone-Huntsville chapter has satellite chapters in Anniston and with the ROTC program at the University of North Alabama. This year, the new position of vice president of satellite chapter affairs has been added to the chapter's board. Plans are to establish another ROTC-based satellite at Alabama A&M/University of Alabama-Huntsville, and to look into other communities where local leadership would welcome a satellite chapter.

"Satellites are a great way to extend AUSA out to other communities," Howell said. "These satellites can develop their own programs on the local level and also participate in the larger chapter activities."

Through the satellites and his activities with the chapter, Howell hopes to be a mentor to young people interested in the military.

"My military experience is unique to me," he said. "But, for any young person there is so much the military is able to do to build their self-esteem, confidence and physical attributes. It is a great experience that trains people for life. And, for those who don't make it a career, military service gives them an edge over their competitors when they enter the civilian work force."

Howell's two-year presidency of the local AUSA chapter also puts him in the enviable position of leading the organization through a very special birthday year.

"We will celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Redstone-Huntsville chapter in March/April 2009," he said. "I am so lucky to be president at this time. We have already started doing some planning for something spectacular to honor the chapter and to also honor Huntsville."

But, right now, Howell's focus is on two upcoming July events – the naming of AUSA's best overall chapter and the local chapter's sponsorship of the Armed Forces Week Celebration.

"We've gotten best overall chapter awards three years in a row (2004, 2005 and 2006)," he said. "We continue to expand our activities and get better at what we do. The community and its organizations and corporations are so active here in giving us the support we need to be successful."

"But, now we are coming up on possibly winning best chapter for the fourth

year in a row. Even if we don't, we've certainly reset the bar in terms of our accomplishments this last year, and what we've done over the last four years has also been good for other chapters who have followed our lead and done more for the Army in their communities. We are leading by example. We've raised the bar for all chapters. And, that is good for AUSA, the Army and the Soldier."

The local chapter was recently notified that it has attained President's Club designation again this year. In April, the chapter was honored to receive the Third Region AUSA President's Trophy for Large Chapter Excellence 2007. Both are harbingers toward a possible fourth year as best overall chapter.

The Armed Forces Celebration in July is one of many local flagship events where the AUSA chapter receives high visibility. But, Howell said there will be other events added this year to highlight leadership changes at Redstone Arsenal and to grow the chapter's membership base.

"Our priority is to sustain the excellent record we have, and to find new ways to serve Soldiers and to get the Army's message out," he said. "But, beyond that, we want to reach out to our corporate and individual members and thank them for the support that is so important to our success."

Editor's note: For more information on the Redstone-Huntsville AUSA chapter and its activities, check out its web site at www.ausaredstone.org.

Family of patriots praying for sons in Iraq

Network of friends
provides support

By KARI HAWKINS

Staff writer

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Retired Lt. Col. Bob and Rebecca Reynolds live their patriotism every day.

It's not the in-your-face red-white-and-blue kind of patriotism. Rather, it's the kind they carry daily in their hearts, a patriotism that runs deep in their family and stands strong on the front line of the Global War on Terrorism.

The Reynolds' two sons — Robert "Bo" Jr. and Douglas — are fighting the war in Iraq. On this Fourth of July holiday, the family plans to quietly celebrate their patriotic legacy at their lake house on Smith Lake, with one special catch — Bo will be home for his 15-day leave, during which his father, also a West Point graduate, will pin him with the new captain's bars of a recent promotion.

"We're proud of our boys," Bob Reynolds said in an inter-

view just days before Bo's return on leave. "We're proud that it was important for them to serve their country."

Besides having Bo with them for the holiday, they will also enjoy the Fourth of July with Bo's wife, Katrina, who grew up in the same southeast Huntsville neighborhood as Bo and who, since the deployment, has been living with her parents.

"She's not from a military family," Rebecca Reynolds said. "What has impressed me is how strong she is and how she stays in touch with the family readiness group even though she is living at home. She has really been a comfort and a real blessing for our family."

With both sons in Iraq, the Reynolds couple have turned to each other, to a network of family and friends, and to God for their own support.

"We rely so much on our faith, family and friends," Rebecca Reynolds said.

"Every day we pray they are in God's hands. Bo has lost Soldiers. He has told us that the hardest thing is shipping all their personal effects home or seeing guys you fight with going back to hospitals. But, we believe in the power of prayer and there isn't a day that goes by somebody doesn't ask me how the boys are. I've asked my sons 'Do you feel people's prayers?' And they say 'Mom, more than you know.'"

Capt. Robert "Bo" Reynolds serves as the company executive officer with the 1st Cavalry from Fort Hood, Texas. He deployed in October 2006 and is stationed in Baghdad. 1st Lt. Douglas Reynolds is a platoon leader with the 3rd Infantry Division from Fort Benning, Ga. He deployed March 11 and is stationed about 30 kilometers south of Baghdad.

"After he graduated from West Point, Bo had a year of training before he was assigned to his unit at Fort Hood. And, at the time, his unit had just gotten back from Iraq," Rebecca Reynolds said. "So, when he was a platoon leader, he had almost a year to get to know his Soldiers. Douglas had a year of training and just a few months with his platoon before he was deployed."



Courtesy photo

MY TWO SONS— Retired Lt. Col. Bob Reynolds poses with his two sons, 1st Lt. Douglas Reynolds, left, and (then 1st Lt.) Capt. Robert "Bo" Reynolds Jr., at Fort Benning, Ga., following Douglas' graduation from Airborne Ranger school on Aug. 4, 2006. It was the last time the entire family was together before the two brothers' deployments to Iraq.

The Reynolds brothers grew up as military kids and their service continues a family legacy. Their father served in the Army for 22 years while their mother served in the Air Force for six years. Their paternal grandfather served with the Navy during World War II and with the Marines in Korea, and their

paternal step-grandfather served in the Army during WWII. Their maternal grandfather served as an Air Force pilot for 20 years, with service in WWII, where he was a POW for two years, and in Korea.

In their mother's immediate family, four out of five children served in the military, with one

brother graduating from the Air Force Academy and another brother, an Airborne Ranger, serving 20 years in the Army.

Bob Reynolds graduated from West Point in 1975 and returned to the military academy in the mid-'80s on assignment. At the time, Bo was three and Douglas was one.

"As little kids, the military made an impression on them," Rebecca Reynolds said. "They grew up hearing their grandfathers' stories about their military experiences. For Bo, West Point and the Army was the only place he wanted to go. That was for him. Doug gravitated toward it in high school. They are very close. They are each other's best friends."

The family has lived in Huntsville twice, once in the early 1990s when Bob Reynolds was an officer serving in Patriot Project Office and Army TACMS. After retiring as a



Photo by Kari Hawkins

SOLDIER'S SPOUSE— Waiting for the return of Capt. Robert "Bo" Reynolds Jr. is his wife, Katrina, who is now living with her parents in the neighborhood where she and Bo grew up, and working at Kroger as a pharmacist. Bo and Katrina started dating while he was attending West Point and she was attending Auburn. They were married about two years before Bo's deployment in October 2006.

Excerpt from a Soldier's letter

The following is from a letter to home written by Huntsville native Capt. Robert "Bo" Reynolds Jr., who is stationed in Iraq:

"Right now, our men are doing better, and are beginning to move on with their lives. We had our, hopefully, final wake tonight for Spc. Mark Caguioa. It is never easy losing a Soldier, especially in the prime of their lives, but I know the Lord has his reasons. I am so proud of the Soldiers from Bravo Company; no matter what happens they pick up their gear and head out into sector each day! I really love these men, and I will never again serve with such a fine group of individuals in my lifetime. This is where the proverbial 'Rubber meets the Road!' and I wish some of the critics and proponents for this war could see these men work because they would be proud as well."

See Family on page 11

Family

continued from page 10

lieutenant colonel, Bob Reynolds took a job with Raytheon in Huntsville as a THAAD program manager. Rebecca Reynolds also works on THAAD for Lockheed Martin.

"We fell in love with Huntsville. It was a wonderful place for our sons," Bob Reynolds said. "So, after I served in the Pentagon, we decided to retire here so I could be more involved with our sons during their teen years. I had the opportunity to be involved in all their athletics."

Both boys were state champion wrestlers while attending Grissom High. They were also All-City football players. At West Point, they both lettered in wrestling.

"They liked the very structured environment of West Point," Bob Reynolds said. "It's tough and it's rigorous. It's very different than any other college experiences. But, it teaches discipline and leadership. They loved realizing their leadership potential. Now, they love leading their Soldiers. They're proud of their Soldiers."

Bo graduated from West Point in 2004 and Douglas in 2005. But, while Bob Reynolds' career was in air defense artillery, his sons chose a different Army career path.

"I joke that I failed as a parent because both of my kids are infantry guys," Bob Reynolds said. "But, both are Airborne Rangers and Bo is also air assault."

Although Bob Reynolds didn't see combat during his military career, he said he did experience situations where it was a "stone's throw away."

"I've told Bo and Doug that their Soldiers will look to them for leadership and they have to be up to the task," he said. "When the chips are down, Soldiers will look to them for leadership. They have to be tactically and technically proficient, but they also have to be good leaders."

Both sons are doing similar things in Iraq – manning check points, patrolling and searching for insurgents. But, while Rebecca and Bob Reynolds frequently communicate with Bo, they have infrequent communications from Douglas.

"Douglas is on patrol for six or seven days at a time. We can't call him. He has to call us," Rebecca Reynolds said. "But, I do know that he hadn't been there a month when he had already earned his combat infantry badge. He has been in convoys that have been under attack. He's been in situations where IEDs (improvised explosive devices) have gone off.

They are both knocking down doors and looking for the bad guys."

Bo works closely with the soldiers from the Iraqi Army.

"In one letter he wrote, Bo said 'I'm really seeing Iraqis trying to stand up and fight Al-Qaeda,'" Rebecca Reynolds said. "He wrote about a situation where a Bradley vehicle broke down in an area not considered a very good place to be. Bo sent his Soldiers to secure the perimeters. He and a sergeant were trying to make the repairs. They had their vests and helmets off. They were very vulnerable."

"All of a sudden, a group of Kiowa and Apache helicopters came up and hovered overhead while they made the repairs. He said they were like angels. They were a blessing."

Douglas has told his family about being with his platoon near a checkpoint on a bridge when it exploded from an enemy bomb. He and his Soldiers assisted in pulling Soldiers out of the rubble, three of which were badly injured and transported to a hospital by helicopter.

"As a father, they are seeing things I don't want them to see, that I didn't even see when I was in the Army," Bob Reynolds said. "But, they've had the training. They are prepared."

"I asked Doug after he got to Iraq about what he thought about the experience. He said 'Dad, this is what I've always wanted to do – be with my men and be a platoon leader.'"

Both brothers have known West Point officers who have died in Iraq. They also have good friends who are now serving in Iraq or Afghanistan. Bo is serving with a fellow Grissom High graduate – battalion commander Lt. Col. Dale Kuehl.

Rebecca Reynolds recalled the day she and her husband were there to see Douglas being deployed with his unit.

"We have unpleasant things happen in our lives. But, you realize when those Soldiers are deployed that your problems get put into perspective," she said.

"It was an honor for us to drop off Douglas with his unit. He has Soldiers who were deploying for the third time in five years. There were toddlers and pregnant women there to see the Soldiers off. No one complained. People were there to support each other."

The Reynolds family relies on rear detachment Soldiers and family readiness groups from their sons' units for support and information. Bo's wife, Katrina, remains close to the FRG from Fort Hood, and takes the time to send greeting cards to FRG family members on birthdays, anniversaries and holidays.

"I just want to let them know someone



Photo by Kari Hawkins

AWAITING RETURN— Patriotism runs deep for retired Lt. Col. Bob and Rebecca Reynolds of Huntsville as they pray for the safe return of their two sons, who are West Point graduates now serving as officers in Iraq.

is thinking about them," Katrina said.

She and Rebecca Reynolds also put together care packages to send to both brothers. Katrina has even recruited her mother's students at Hampton Cove Middle School to help with care packages.

"I have an incredible family and my in-laws are phenomenal," she said. "The support group is so good here. Kroger (her employer) has been incredible in their support. I was apprehensive about Bo leaving, but the deployment hasn't been as bad as I anticipated. God's given me the strength I need each day. I take one day at a time."

Katrina calls Bo every night. She is learning about military life from Bo and her mother-in-law.

"I never dreamed I'd be married to a Soldier," she said. "It's all new to me. But, I think it has helped me develop a greater appreciation for what our country stands for and the Soldiers who protect our freedom. If I hadn't been involved or had this experience, I wouldn't have been able to grasp what the military entails or the sacrifices it asks its Soldiers and their families to make."

Even though the Reynolds couple have watched the country become divided over the war in Iraq, they said it is vitally important for the country to continue to support the Soldiers.

"What does it matter how we got there?" Rebecca Reynolds said. "We're there and we have to support our Soldiers. Losing Soldiers is an awful thing and doesn't make any American feel good. But, there shouldn't be any animosity toward Iraqi people who are afraid to step

up. It takes a lot of courage to step up and fight back."

Bob Reynolds hopes and prays that the Americans and Iraqis work together to find a way for Iraqis to be free so that all American Soldiers can come home.

"It's a tough situation," he said. "We thought everyone there would embrace democracy. But, there is so much clan allegiance. There's not a wave of nationalism. This is about what needs to be done for the good of all Iraqis. Maybe the U.S. needs to consider that democracy might not be for everybody. Who knows?"

Although they are proud of their sons and the patriotism that they all share as U.S. servicemembers, it has been difficult for both Bob and Rebecca Reynolds to live with the worry that goes along with their deployment.

"The hardest thing is you can't reach out and hug them, and you can't talk to them whenever you want to," Rebecca Reynolds said.

"We pray every day for God to keep them and their Soldiers safe. We pray for the Soldiers' families. They're in God's hands, and there's nothing we can do but pray and support them with whatever they need, talk to them whenever we have the opportunity, and look forward to when they can come home and be together again."

Editor's note: Letters and care packages can be sent to the Reynolds brothers at the following addresses: Capt. Robert "Bo" Reynolds at B Company, 1-5, 2 BCT, 1 CD, FOB Liberty, APO, AE 09344 or 1st Lt. Douglas W. Reynolds at A Co. 2-69 AR BN, FOB Kalsu, APO, AE 09312.

Success and survivability mission continues

Product office team under new leader

By KIM HENRY

Staff writer
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Lt. Col. Raymond Pickering assumed the Infrared Countermeasures product manager position from Col. Philip Carey in a change of charter ceremony Thursday at Bob Jones Auditorium.

PM IRCM falls under the Aircraft Survivability Equipment Program Office within the Program Executive Office for Intelligence, Electronic Warfare & Sensors.

The Infrared Countermeasure product office is responsible for the life-cycle management of the Common Missile Warning System. The CMWS is designed to look for the signature that a surface-to-air missile emits. When the system detects a threat, it will signal the dispenser system to launch flares in order to decoy missiles away from the aircraft.

In November 2004 when Carey became IRCM product manager there were no CMWS in the operational inventory. Now there are more than 1,000 systems.

"Every Army aircraft that flies in combat is protected by a Common Missile

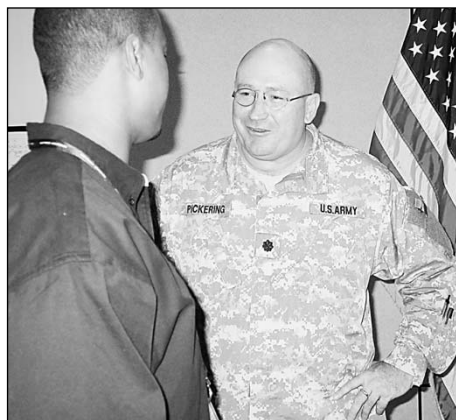


Photo by Kim Henry

NEW FACE— Employees get an opportunity to meet the new Infrared Countermeasures product manager, Lt. Col. Ray Pickering.

Warning System," said Edward Bair, program executive officer for intelligence, electronic warfare and sensors. "That is a remarkable feat to accomplish in that time frame considering the construct of that program was intended to achieve that three years from now — not by now, but three years from now."

Due to the PM's success in fielding the CMWS system, Carey was awarded PM of the Year and the David Packard Award for Acquisition Excellence, both in 2006.

"Col. Phil Carey is undoubtedly a hero to a vast number of parents, spouses, families and friends because his singular leadership efforts brought their loved ones home safely from combat operations," Bair said.

Carey, who plans to continue working in the Redstone community, thanked the employees of PM IRCM, the Aviation platform project managers and industry for making the system a success.

"What Mr. Bair said about me is really about you," Carey said. "The mantra was success and survivability for Soldiers and that's what you have brought I believe in spades into the theater. I've always felt that you invested yourself: heart, mind, body and soul into this program."

Pickering, who has served as an assistant product manager for PEO IEW&S, was previously assigned as the director for the Battle Command under the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Acquisition, Logistics and Technology.

"You're going to support Lt. Col. Pickering in the same exceptional way that you did me and just judging from my brief association with Pickering you've got a great leader coming in behind me and you won't skip a beat," Carey said.

Quipped Pickering: "My acquisition mentor always told me that when you take over a PM job you never want to take over the best PM job. Certainly don't take over that won the acquisition program of the year and never take over one that won the Packard award. So all I have to say is oops."

On a more serious note, Pickering praised the PM IRCM team for its work under Carey and offered his full support to the program.

"Even as we sit here at this ceremony, there are bad guys in Iraq and Afghanistan that are trying to find ways to kill our Soldiers and shoot down our helicopters," he said. "My number one mission is to bring our aircrews and the Soldiers they carry back home safely."

Abalos remembered at program executive office

Worker died from cancer



Mike Abalos

Members of the Program Executive Office for Missiles and Space honored their longtime colleague and friend Mike Abalos with a flag lowering ceremony Friday. Abalos died June 27 after a lengthy battle with cancer. He was 65.

An American flag was flown over building 5250 for 24 hours in his honor. Friday morning, family and friends assembled in front of the building to witness the

flag being lowered and its presentation to Abalos' widow, Kathleen. Brig. Gen. Genaro Dellarocco, the program executive officer, presented the flag to her.

Abalos had served as a Soldier and civilian. Survivors include Kathleen, seven children, 10 grandchildren, his sister, Arlina Conklin and brothers, Rudy Abalos, Richard Abalos and Patrick Abalos.

Funeral Mass is today at Infant Jesus Catholic Church in Hurley, N.M., followed by burial with full military honors at Fort Bayard National Cemetery, N.M.



Courtesy photo

FROM A GRATEFUL NATION— Kathleen Abalos receives a flag in honor of her late husband, Mike Abalos, from Brig. Gen. Genaro Dellarocco, the program executive officer for missiles and space, as other family members look on.



Courtesy photo

Southeast director

Lt. Gen. Robert Wilson, right, commander of Installation Management Command, passes the organizational colors to Davis Tindoll Jr. in a change of director ceremony for IMCOM-Southeast June 25 at Fort McPherson, Ga.

Top triathlon athlete makes transition to Army

*All-Army team newcomer
formerly represented Navy*

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

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It didn't take long for Staff Sgt. Tina Eakin to make a splash in the local running community.

She was the top female finisher from Madison County in the annual Cotton Row Run 10K on Memorial Day in downtown Huntsville. She'll be among the All-Army representatives in the Armed Forces Triathlon Championship July 24-29 at Pt. Magu, Calif., near Oceanside.

Eakin is well known among the military triathlon competitors. She represented the Navy at the armed forces championship in 2001, 2005 and 2006. Each of those years, she was among the top six female finishers so she qualified for the Armed Forces Olympics where she represented the United States. The international competitions were held in Slovenia in 2001, California in 2005 and Sweden in 2006.

She hopes to qualify for this year's Armed Forces Olympics scheduled in India in October. That means finishing among the top six females at next month's championship – this time wearing the Army's colors, rather than Navy's.

"I'm glad I have the chance to represent the Army," said Eakin, the Navy's female athlete of the year in 2002. "Having been in the Navy, I look forward to having the opportunity to represent the Army. And I hope to do well."

The Navy's loss is the Army's gain.

Eakin, 36, served in the Navy from October 1992 until March 2007 when she switched to the Army. She was on the USS Pinckney, a guided missile destroyer, from 2003-07 in San Diego. After tak-

ing the Warrior Transition Course at White Sands, N.M., she arrived April 15 at Redstone.

The Houghton, Mich., native ran the Cotton Row 10K on May 28 in a personal best 38 minutes and 1 second and was the seventh female finisher overall. If not first, she is usually among the top five female finishers in area triathlons. Her personal best marathon is two hours and 57 minutes in December 2002 at the Honolulu Marathon. And her personal best Ironman Triathlon – 2.4 mile swim, 112 mile bike ride and marathon (26.2 mile) run – is her 10-hour, 12-minute finish in April 2002 in Australia. She has done four Ironman Triathlons – Kona, Hawaii (the top female military finisher in 2001 and 2002), New Zealand in 2001 and Australia in 2002.

The armed forces championship July 28 in California will include a 1,500 meter swim (just under a mile), a 25 mile bike ride and a 10K (6.2 mile) run. Her best time there is 2:14.

"I would like to qualify for the Armed Forces Olympics and to beat my PR (personal record)," said Eakin, who is 5-foot-5 and 140 pounds. "Basically just represent the Army as best I can. My chain of command has been very helpful and supportive."

Assigned to Headquarters & Alpha Company, she graduates today from the Ammunition Specialist course. She plans to attend Airborne School in August at Fort Benning, Ga., and then be stationed at Camp Ederle, Italy with the 173rd Airborne Brigade.

"As far as competition, my ultimate goal is to do another Ironman," she said. "Other than that I'll keep racing when I can. I want to be Airborne qualified; I'm going to school for that. I want to do the best that I can and adapt to the Army, be a good NCO. And I will continue to run, bike and swim as much as I can. But at the same time, realizing the mission comes first."



Photo by Skip Vaughn

ROAD WARRIOR— Staff Sgt. Tina Eakin will compete in the Armed Forces Triathlon Championship July 24-29 at Pt. Magu, Calif.

Picnics are only as good as the food

Cookouts get spoiled when freshness lags

By **CHERIE MILLER**
Fox Army Health Center

Get ready. Get set. Grill! Warm weather is the ideal time to cook out. More people cook outdoors in summer than at any other time of year. Unfortunately, the warm summer temperatures are also ideal for bacterial growth in the foods we enjoy at picnics and parties. There are some simple guidelines you can use to ensure your picnic isn't "spoiled."

Start your safe food handling measures right in the supermarket. Select perishable meats, poultry and dairy products last, right before checkout. Place raw meats and poultry in plastic bags to prevent cross-contamination from any juices leaking onto other foods. Ideally, place these perishable items in the car itself, where it's cooler, instead of in the trunk. If you live quite a distance from the supermarket, you should consider taking along a cooler packed with ice to pack perishables for the ride home. In either case, don't leave your perishables in a hot car while you run other errands.

After arriving at home, immediately place perishables in the refrigerator or freezer. If you won't be using the meat within 1-2 days, it should be frozen to avoid spoilage. Remember that every time you handle the raw food product you introduce more bacteria, so only rewrap the food when the store wrapping is damaged or soiled. If rewrapping is necessary, use clean plastic wrap or aluminum foil and wash your hands well before handling the food. Check the temperature in your refrigerator and freezer. Refrigerator temperatures should be 40 degrees Fahrenheit or less

and freezers should be maintained at zero or less.

Remove the foods from cold storage right before preparation. Frozen foods should be thawed in the refrigerator and not on the kitchen counter. Before preparing the food, wash your hands thoroughly and clean all countertops and cutting boards with hot soapy water. And of course, use clean utensils. If you're taking food to a picnic site or elsewhere away from home, pack all perishable items in a cooler with ice or gel packs. Ensure all foods are wrapped securely or in leak proof containers and keep the cooler in the shade or shelter. Use utensils, rather than your hands, to mix salads.

Meats and poultry should be thoroughly cooked prior to serving. Poultry should be cooked until juices are clear and the flesh is no longer pink. Hamburger and other ground meats should be cooked until they are brown in the middle with no pink juice. Other meats should be cooked to 145 F except pork which should reach 160 F. Keep the food hot until served – you may need to set it to the side of the grill rack to accomplish this. Any bacteria present in the raw meat can contaminate the cooked meat, so don't place cooked meat on the same platter the raw meat was on. Place any leftovers back in the cooler. If food has been in warm temperatures for more than an hour, it's better to discard it than risk re-serving it.

So you see – safe food handling is easy as 1-2-3. Keep foods at safe temperatures; protect foods from contamination; keep your hands and utensils clean. So, come on, let's have a picnic!

Editor's note: Cherie Miller is environmental health coordinator, Preventive Medicine, at Fox Army Health Center. For more information on food sanitation, call Preventive Medicine at 955-8888, extension 1441.

Boy Scouts honor retired U.S. flags

Local troop buries ashes on Redstone Arsenal

Boy Scout Troop 220 recently buried on Redstone Arsenal the ashes from 160 United States flags. The flags came from a flag retirement ceremony held at the Jackson County Fairgrounds in Scottsboro.

As assistant Scoutmaster Shannon Wilkes narrated the ceremony, Scouts and adults lined up beside the burial site at attention.

"This ceremony is to bury ashes that are remains of American flags that have been respectfully retired after service as the symbol of our country," Wilkes said. "These flags were retired in accordance with the United States Flag Code that permits an American flag that is in a condition no longer fitting for display, to be destroyed in a dignified ceremony. These flags have gone into battle; have flown over buildings and schools; and have draped the remains of heroes – both military and civilian."

He went on to say that although these flags are now just memories, they'll be back the next time they're needed, their colors will be fresh and bright, and their edges will no longer be ragged.

Wilkes concluded the ceremony by asking attendees to return to the parking



Courtesy photo

PREPARING FOR BURIAL— Boy Scout Dakota Harshaw pours ashes into the ground while Hunter Frazier, Scoutmaster Gordon Hodges, assistant Scoutmaster Shannon Wilkins, Steven Brown and Colby Muir watch.

area in silence and not watch the filling of the burial site.

Miss USA visits Soldiers at Pentagon

Beauty queen expresses admiration for military

By **J.D. LEIPOLD**
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — The reigning Miss USA Rachel Smith and R&B artist KEM paid a call on the Army June 22. After lunch and a Pentagon tour, the two visited Walter Reed Army Medical Center, where they spent several hours chatting with wounded warriors.

"What impressed me most about the

Soldiers I had lunch with today was the enthusiasm and pride they have in our country. It's contagious because I, too, am a representative of our country, and they passed some of their strength and advice to me," said Smith, 21-year-old daughter of dual Army parents.

The Soldiers she dined with were equally impressed with the beauty queen who was also Miss Tennessee Teen USA in 2002.

"I realized after talking with her at lunch how genuine she is," said Staff Sgt. Ed Fountain, who serves in the Sergeant Major of the Army's office. "Even though her parents retired when she was very young, she's always lived around the Army and has a lot of respect for the military and what we do."

Visiting Soldiers was an added bonus for KEM, who recently performed at the White House in honor of Black Music Month.

"I'm in awe of the service of these Soldiers," he said. "It takes a very high degree of integrity and responsibility and sacrifice to do what they're doing."

After touring the Pentagon and visiting the Sept. 11 memorial center, Smith and KEM said they had a better understanding of what it means to be an American and to be a Soldier.

"It was really emotional to see where the plane hit on 9/11 and to meet the men and women who fight for our country on a daily basis," Smith said. "I have so much admiration for what our armed forces do... Not just anyone can do that."



Photo by J.D. Leipold

GUEST OF HONOR— Following lunch with Soldiers in the Pentagon's executive dining room June 22, Miss USA 2007 takes a moment to sit for a portrait. Soldiers from left are Sgt. Maj. Thuan Wright, Staff Sgt. Shajn Cabrera, Maj. Elizabeth Casely, Staff Sgt. Ed Fountain and Staff Sgt. Laura Belzer.

Question/answer on benefits

The following question originally appeared in NARFE magazine and is reprinted with permission from the National Active and Retired Federal Employees:

Question: My husband had good health benefits coverage through his private industry company at the time I worked in the federal government. I was covered by

his plan and dropped my FEHBP plan several years before I retired. His company will not cover him now that he is retired and I would like to enroll in the FEHBP again. Is this possible after I retire?

Answer: The Office of Personnel Management will be able to assist you. OPM can be reached at 888-767-6738.

Traffic mishaps take toll

Army accidents for the week of May 31 through June 6 included the following:

A Soldier was killed in a motorcycle accident the night of June 6 in Gaiberg, Germany. The Soldier was operating his Suzuki GSX1300 Hayabusa motorcycle with another Soldier, also on a motorcycle, when he lost control while negotiating

a curve and reportedly struck a sign. He was wearing the required motorcycle personal protective equipment.

A Soldier was injured in a vehicle accident June 4 Louisburg, W.Va. The Soldier was driving his personal vehicle when it left the road and rolled. His left arm became trapped under the vehicle and was crushed.

Have assignment, will travel to new command

Workers get chance for cross-training

By KARI HAWKINS

Staff writer

karihawk@knology.net

The second time is the charm for a new employee development program that involves 10 commands of the Joint Aeronautical Logistics Commanders.

Led by AMCOM commander Maj. Gen. Jim Pillsbury, the Joint Aeronautical Logistics Commanders (JALC) Employee Development Program offers cross-training opportunities across commands to federal civilian employees working in logistics areas — such as design and development, acquisition, maintenance and life cycle management — that are required to maintain U.S. aircraft strength and superiority.

“Early in his command at AMCOM, Maj. Gen. Pillsbury saw the need to provide employees a broader perspective of how the Army and the other services work as part of his initiative to ‘build the bench,’” said Gary Nenner, director of operations G-3, who serves as the working board chairman for JALC.

“In July 04, in his role as Army principal for the Joint Aeronautical Logistics Commanders, Maj. Gen. Pillsbury proposed the idea of an employee exchange program. The concept was to design 6-12 month developmental detail opportunities in each JALC organization with the goal of expanding the knowledge base in aeronautical logistics.”

But, at first, the JALC Employee Development Program had a hard time getting off the ground.

Advertised to the aeronautical logistics civilian community across the 10 commands in 2006, the program didn’t get any takers for eight cross-training opportunities. But, in 2007, two employees stepped up to take on the challenge of temporarily leaving positions in their commands to assume aeronautical logistics responsibilities in a different command.

“In February 2007, the principals met and agreed that they all



Photo by Kari Hawkins

LOOKING FOR BEST AND BRIGHTEST— Jackie Timme of AMCOM Human Resources is coordinating a program that provides opportunities to civilian aeronautical logistics employees who want to take on temporary assignments that teach them the “best practices” of other commands.

still supported the program 100 percent,” said program coordinator Jackie Timme of AMCOM Human Resources.

“They looked at what they could do to make it work. We asked organizations to look at their employees, and encourage their best and their brightest to consider this program. We asked supervisors to hand-pick employees who they thought would be a good candidate for this program. We can’t force an employee to participate in this, but we can encourage them to apply.”

The temporary transfers are designed to broaden a civilian employee’s “joint world view,” foster the exchange of best practices across participating organizations, hone networking skills, and provide real-time experience that will foster creativity and cost savings in the way the commands do business. It is hoped the experience will help employees find ways to reduce cycle time and cost, increase reliability and better manage inventories of aeronautical logistics assets across the full spectrum of operations.

The two employees who have volunteered for the program — one from the Defense Contract Management Agency who will take a six-month development assignment with the Federal Aviation Administration and the other

from the Defense Logistics Agency who will take a one-year development assignment with the Defense Contract Management Agency — will begin their new temporary assignments this summer.

“This is a great opportunity for employees to obtain joint experience with other services, DoD organizations, the Department of Homeland Security and the FAA,” Nenner said. “The intent is to give them some perspective of how the other services and organizations function. A joint perspective is a critical,

sought-after commodity in today’s government career environment.”

Even so, it has proven to be difficult to recruit employees for the development program for several reasons, Timme said.

“First, the employee has to leave a job and, possibly, a family to do a job at another location for six months to a year,” she said. “Secondly, funding is tight and the employee’s parent organization has to pay the employee expenses incurred when their employee goes away. Another reason is that employee supervisors have to be willing to give up the expertise of their employee during the reassignment. It’s a big deal to take an employee out of the work force for six months to a year.”

Even so, the benefits of the program far outweigh the temporary loss of an employee.

“This program has the potential to positively affect the culture of our work force — it is a facet of enabling cross-service collaboration,” Nenner said.

“The initiatives the JALC shepherds have far reaching impacts to aviation, in particular, and vast applicability to logistics processes across the spectrum of the services and DoD organizations. Success is achieved because we facilitate the exchange of best practices and enable cross-service collaboration ... We hope to bring about more commonality across the services in support of aviation,

and foster a more capable and flexible work force.”

Once a qualified employee decides to participate in the JALC Employee Development Program, they must get approval from their supervisor and their command and choose their first and second choice of assignment. Once they are placed, a development assignment and training agreement is outlined.

“We look at what their duties will be, how the program will benefit them and enhance their career, and how their experience will benefit their parent organization,” Timme said.

Once the employee begins their assignment, their progress is reviewed every three months and at the end of the assignment.

“We want to see what benefits are actually realized,” Timme said. “We want to know the lessons learned. We will report back to the principals about the success of the program. My hope is this will help us to do this again next year and maybe even increase participation.”

Because it is a development assignment, employees aren’t required to have extensive qualifications. But, they do need to have experience in aeronautical logistics, be a GS 12-15 or equivalent, be a federal employee with at least three years experience, have a bachelor’s degree or equivalent, and, possibly, have a security clearance.

Though no AMCOM employees are participating in the 2007-08 program, Timme hopes that will change when the 2008-09 program is advertised.

“It would be wonderful if we had an AMCOM employee who would take on this assignment and learn how another organization does business, and bring that organization’s best practices back to AMCOM and share them with us,” Timme said.

“We hope the program will create synergy between the commands. It is meant to benefit an employee’s career. But, it is also meant to benefit the commands involved in the cross training.”

For more information on the JALC Employee Development Program, call Timme at 876-6061.

Development program participant roll call

Commands participating in the Joint Aeronautical Logistics Commanders Employee Development Program are:

- Aviation and Missile Command, Department of the Army
- Aeronautical Systems Center, Department of the Air Force
- Naval Air Systems Command, Department of the Navy
- U.S. Marine Corps
- U.S. Coast Guard
- National Aeronautics and Space Administration
- Defense Contract Management Agency
- Defense Logistics Agency
- Federal Aviation Administration
- Department of Homeland Security

Utility helicopter leader has 'big shoes to fill'

Davis succeeds retiring Lunn as UH-60M product manager

By SKIP VAUGHN
Rocket editor
skip.vaughn@redstone.army.mil

Col. Tim Crosby stood on stage next to Lt. Col. Chip Lunn during Lunn's retirement ceremony Friday. Lunn reached for his retirement certificate but Crosby pulled it away.

"I don't have to give this to him, do I?" Crosby quipped as the Bob Jones Auditorium erupted in laughter.

Lunn retired after 23 years service, including the past three as the product manager for Utility Helicopter UH-60M modernization. The incoming product manager is Lt. Col. Jerry Davis.

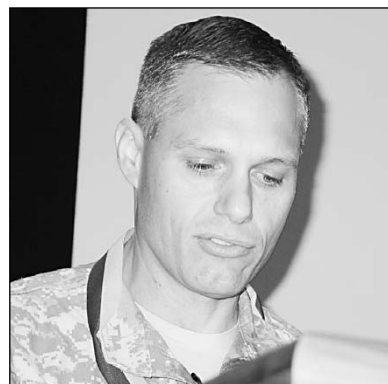
"I know I have big shoes to fill," Davis said, "but I hope I can step up to them."

Crosby, the deputy program

executive officer for aviation, presented the Legion of Merit and (finally) the retirement certificate to Lunn.

Pausing at times to regain his composure, Lunn thanked his family, his mentors and the UH-60M team. His tenure as product manager had included three milestone decisions.

"This has truly been a textbook team effort," Lunn said.



Lt. Col. Chip Lunn



Photo by Skip Vaughn

WELCOME ABOARD— Lt. Col. Jerry Davis, the UH-60M product manager, poses with his wife, Kimberly, and their children Kaitlin and Chris. Not present is their other son, Roger.

Lose those unwanted pounds

Movin' & Losin' signup under way

Extra weight really shows during the hot days of summer, the season for lightweight clothing and swimsuits. Morale Welfare and Recreation's Sports and Fitness wants to help you look your best.

Movin' & Losin' is a "get moving weight-loss competition," according to assistant sports director Phylissa Shannon. Sign up by July 12 for the program which runs from July 17 through Sept. 11.

"Anybody on Redstone Arsenal can participate," Shannon said. Five-member teams will compete for prizes at the end of the eight weeks.

MWR Sports and Fitness tries to offer the program three times each year. Teams get points for exercise, weight loss and for turning in their exercise sheets on time.

"If individuals want to participate, I can usually find them a team," Shannon said. "But it usually works better if they have a team of five (to sign up)."

Those interested can call her at 313-1202 or e-mail phylissa.shannon@us.army.mil.

Tobyhanna workers volunteer for front lines

Hundreds step forward yearly to join ranks of deployed

By JACQUELINE BOUCHER
Tobyhanna public affairs specialist

TOBYHANNA ARMY DEPOT, Pa. — Tobyhanna employees lend their skills and expertise to protecting America's freedom by sustaining jobs that support the war fighter in austere locations around the world.

Every year hundreds of volunteers join the ranks of deployed military members fighting the war on terrorism. In theater, personnel support a variety of programs, including the Counter Remote-Controlled Improvised Explosive Device Electronics Warfare electronic countermeasures systems, Electro-Optics/Night Vision Common Remotely Operated Weapons System and Standard Army Management Information Systems/Tier 3.

"Because of the work you do, I never feel guilty or worried that we haven't provided the best equipment and capability that we can," said Maj. Gen. Michael Mazzucchi, commander of Communications-Electronics Life Cycle Management Command, while visiting the depot June 7. He commended depot employees for having the "courage to volunteer to go in harm's way."

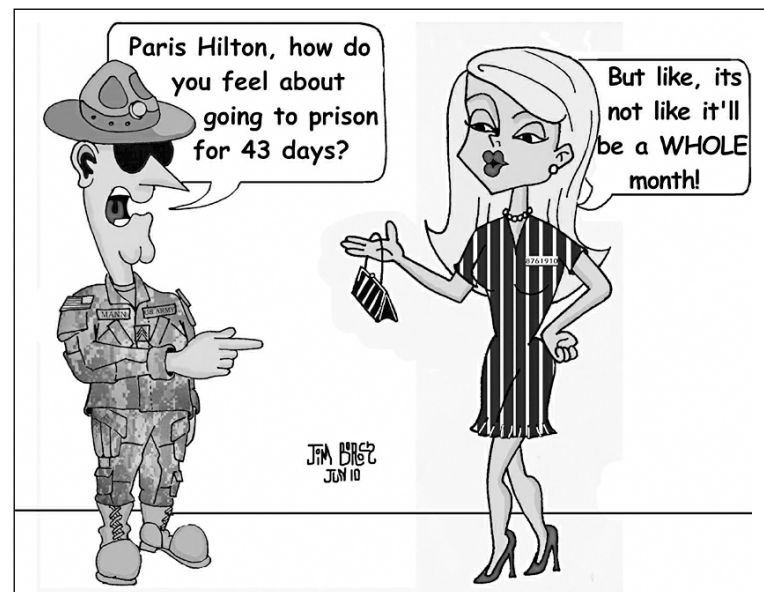
Army officials have coined the term Persistent Conflict for referring to the Global War on Terrorism, according to the general. Persistent Conflict is to be our new normal, he said, indicating that volunteers will continue to be a critical component in the success of the mission.

On any given day, about 100 Tobyhanna employees are serving in locations throughout Southwest Asia. Deployment lengths average six months.



Courtesy photo

CHIN UP— Lt. Col. Jorge Ondina helps Katie Nolan adjust her helmet chin strap prior to a chemical biological radiological nuclear explosive drill while deployed to Camp Arifjan, Kuwait. Nolan is a secretary (office automation) in the Satellite Communications Division, Communications Directorate, Tobyhanna Army Depot.



Community salutes military with week of events

*Armed Forces Celebration
scheduled July 16-22*

By CHRIS GARDNER
For the Rocket

It is that time of year again, time for the Redstone and the Madison-Huntsville community to come together to pay tribute to service-members. It's time for Armed Forces Celebration Week.

The theme for Armed Forces Week, July 16-22, is "America Supports You – Our Military Men and Women." Many of the events are open to the public.

Together with Redstone, the Huntsville-Madison County Chamber of Commerce will have a proclamation signing to kick off the week. It is set to begin at 9:30 a.m. Monday, July 16 at the Redstone Airfield and there will be military hardware on display, such as helicopters and missile systems. Those with access to Redstone are welcome to attend.

Redstone Arsenal's NCO/Soldier of the Year Award luncheon will also be held July 16 at 11 a.m. at the Officers and Civilians Club. The event honors Redstone's outstanding NCO and Soldier. Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased by calling Sgt. 1st Class Monique Mixon at 876-8648.

The 135th Army Band, Springfield, Mo., will headline the "Concert in the Park" series, sponsored by the city of Huntsville and the Art Council, on July 16 at Big Spring Park. The local group Band of Moose, which plays "jam rock," will kick off the night at 6:30 p.m. and the 135th will begin around 7:30. The concert concludes with a fireworks display at approximately 9.

The Concert in the Park is open to the public; and people are encouraged to bring blankets and lawn chairs.

The U.S. Army Soldier Show is set for three performances at the Von Braun Center Concert Hall. Performances are July 17 at 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. and July 18 at 7 p.m. For tickets contact the Diane Campbell Recreation Center in building 3711 or the Huntsville-Madison County Chamber of Commerce. The Army National Guard is the lead sponsor and partner for the Soldier Show and AT&T is the corporate sponsor.



Courtesy photo

SINGING SOLDIER— Staff Sgt. Patricia Isaac performs during the Soldier Show, scheduled July 17-18 at the Von Braun Center Concert Hall as part of Armed Forces Celebration Week.



The Armed Forces Salute Dinner, sponsored by the Association of the U.S. Army and the Chamber of Commerce, is scheduled for July 17 at 7 p.m. at the Von Braun Center North Hall. There will be a general reception starting at 5:30 p.m. in the East/West Hall with military exhibits and displays. The scheduled speaker is Gen. William Wallace, commander of Training and Doctrine Command.

The change of command ceremony for Aviation and Missile Command will be July 19 at 9 a.m. at the Sparkman Complex Parade Field. The ceremony will see Maj. Gen. James Myles take over as commander of the Aviation and Missile Command and Maj. Gen. Jim Pillsbury move on to the Army Materiel Command's operations.

To wrap up the week, AUSA will hold the Armed Forces Week golf tournament July 20 at the Links at Redstone. The tournament is a four-person scramble open to the public. Registration begins at 6:45 a.m. Cost is \$45 for military and DoD civilians and \$85 for others. The price includes entry fee, green fees, cart, food and drink. There is a limit of 192 players in the tournament. For more information, call Mike Kelley at 542-5100 or Rod Bissell at 922-6801.

For more information about Armed Forces Celebration Week, log on to the Team Redstone or AMCOM web site for a calendar of events. You can also call the Chamber of Commerce at 535-2000, or the Public Affairs Office at 842-0558.

Youngsters bag scholarships through Commissary

Annual awards program helps education goals

By KELLEY LANE-SIVLEY
Staff writer
kelleyqa@bellsouth.net

The money that can be saved through using the Commissary is well known to military families in this area. Every year, however, the Commissary expands those savings to a select group for something not on their shelves — college.

The winners of the 2007 Scholarships for Military Children Program were honored at an awards ceremony June 27.

Brendan Griffin, Alyssa Lehr and Laura Macedonia were honored by friends, family and local officials. David McCaghren stood in for his daughter, Audrey, who was attending church camp in Florida at the time and so could not make the ceremony.

The Defense Commissary Agency scholarship program is open to unmarried children up to age 23, when enrolled as a full-time student, of active duty Soldiers, reservists, National Guard and retirees. They may be entering college as freshmen or returning undergraduate students. All must be pursuing a four-year degree. They must also undergo a competitive screening process.

"A minimum of a 3.0 grade point average was expected. They were also expected to be involved in their community," Commissary store director Amber Bray said. "They also wrote a short essay on the subject 'If you could change the outcome of one major event in history, what would it be and how would you change it?'"

Even those who meet all the requirements are not guaranteed a scholarship. Bray was surprised and pleased at the number of recipients from Redstone this year.

"Normally we just have two, like last year," she said. "Out of the 566 scholar-



Photo by Kelley Lane-Sivley

TEENS TAKE THE CAKE— Laura Macedonia, Brendan Griffin and Alyssa Lehr cut the cake at the scholarship awards ceremony while David McCaghren, Garrison commander Col. John Olshefski and Commissary store director Amber Bray look on.

ships worldwide, we have four this year."

Money for the \$1,500 awards comes from corporate sponsor contributions. The four scholarships for Redstone this year come from Colgate-Palmolive. Their representative, Jerry Holloway, was on hand to wish the students well and present them with a medal of achievement from the corporate giant. He also encouraged them to reapply next year.

"Make sure you use Colgate-Palmolive products," Holloway quipped. "Or we're coming back to get our scholarships."

Huntsville city councilwoman from District 3 Sandra Moon brought each student a copy of a proclamation from

Huntsville mayor Loretta Spencer recognizing their achievement. They were also treated to some practical advice from Garrison commander Col. John Olshefski.

"The bottom line is, as you're getting ready to go out into that world you are taking a step," Olshefski said. "You're not going to have mom and dad to cradle you anymore. You're going to have people testing you. They're going to test you with drugs. They're going to test you with alcohol. They're going to test you in all things. You have a lot of decisions to make. You all are already in good shape or you wouldn't be here today. That diploma opens doors. Don't let anybody fool you. If you don't have that piece of paper it's very difficult to get the kind of jobs I

know you want."

Each recipient spoke briefly about their plans and thanked the Defense Commissary Agency for helping them move forward into their future.

"I will be attending Birmingham Southern College. I intend to pursue an interdisciplinary major focusing on the three fields of philosophy, politics and economics," Brendan Griffin said. "After I finish my undergraduate degree I plan to press on to law school."

Laura Macedonia was excited about becoming a full fledged member of a field she has already come to love. She begins coursework at Auburn University's Honors Veterinary Medicine program this fall.

"I had the opportunity this year to intern at medical facilities in Huntsville," she said. "I realized that it's my calling. It's where I belong. Thank you for helping achieve my childhood dream."

The only upperclassman among the future freshmen, Alyssa Lehr, spoke about how college has changed and expanded her thinking. She is a senior at Southeastern Bible College studying religion and philosophy.

"College has changed who I am. I don't even think the same way," she said. "I'm such a better person. I think more about everything I'm involved in."

David McCaghren told of Audrey's intentions. She will attend Judson College to study physical therapy. He also expressed his gratitude as a parent for the generosity of DeCA and Colgate-Palmolive.

"I want to thank everyone involved for this," he said. "The military takes care of its own. I wish I was still in the uniform today."

Before the ceremony concluded, Bray hugged each student and asked them to keep Redstone informed of their progress.

"Let us know how you're doing," she told them. "We care about all of you. I know you'll do great."

National Guard wins softball title in first season

*Beats defending champ
Marines in the final*

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor
skip.v Vaughn@redstone.army.mil

Winning this year's post softball championship was extra special for several members of the National Guard team.

They played last year for MEDDAC, which lost in the final to the Marines. But this time they gained redemption as a National Guard team, in its first year, beat the Marines 11-1 for the championship June 25 at Linton Field.

"It means a lot to these guys," National Guard coach/shortstop Rodney Henshaw said. He played for MEDDAC last year, which marked his third year on a second-place team.

Solid defense led the National Guard to the title. The Guard played errorless ball in the final.

"Defense won it," said winning

pitcher Eric Moorman, who helped himself at the plate by going 2-for-3 and scoring a run. "Defense wins championships. We hit the ball well, ran the bases. When we had men on, we got hits."

The National Guard (14-1) had sent the Marines to the losers bracket by beating them 11-6 on June 20. In that game, Tom Mates went 3-for-4 and scored three runs for the Marines (14-3).

"Errors killed us," Marines player/coach Sean Newsom said June 20. "And we didn't hit the ball either."

In the final, the National Guard out-hit the Marines 13-7 and outscored them 11-1 in five innings. But much of the credit belongs to the Guard's defensive play.

"Like I said all season long, defense wins championships," Henshaw said.

Henshaw has been playing in the troop softball league for four years, and this was his first championship.

"I think the team this year is more family oriented, more team playing, more just wants to win," he said.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

NO DOUBT— Members of the National Guard team celebrate their 11-1 win over the Marines for the championship June 25.

Redstone Announcements



Sports & Recreation

Fall soccer

Register for Child and Youth Services fall soccer from now through July 30 at building 1500 on Weeden Mountain Road. CYS soccer is for ages 4-13. Practices begin in August and games will start after Labor Day. Registration is \$50 and includes the uniform. The CYS registration fee of \$18 per child or \$40 per family must be current. The child's sports physical must also be current at the time of registration. A late registration fee of \$10 applies after July 30. Volunteer coaches are needed. For more information, call 313-3699 or visit www.redstonemwr.com.

Vipers football

The Tennessee Valley Vipers will hold "Military Appreciation Night" on July 14 at the Von Braun Center. That night's game at 7:30 is against the Fort Wayne Fusion in arenafootball2. Free tickets are available to all military, retired military and their family members. All others can get tickets for \$10 for general admission seats, \$18 for reserved box seats at the VBC box office. For military tickets, visit building 3206 off Little John Drive or call Sgt. 1st Class Steven Walker 876-7969. For group information, call the Vipers office 518-6160.

Golf tournament

The eighth annual John Riche Memorial Golf Tournament, sponsored by 100 Black Men of America, is July 27 at Colonial Golf Course in Meridianville. Registration starts at noon and tee time at 1 p.m. The four-man scramble costs \$100 per player and \$400 per team. For more information call Vann Pettaway 372-4009, Marshall England 539-2014 and Mirie Westbrook 694-0646.



Conferences & Meetings

Bible studies

The Protestant Women of the Chapel will begin its summer Bible study program on

Thursday, July 5. Subsequent studies will be July 12, 19 and 26 at 9:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. at Bicentennial Chapel. Nursery care is provided for all Bible studies. For more information, call Erica Hobbs 489-3018 or Sharon Olshefski 489-0404.

Town hall

The LCMC Town Hall, with AMCOM commander Maj. Gen. Jim Pillsbury, is July 11 at 10 a.m. at Bob Jones Auditorium. It will be broadcast on Team Redstone Television Channel 42 and via Internet Portal TV to computer desktops equipped with the IPTV application. Ten seats for the hearing impaired will be reserved in Section 7 of the auditorium. Badges must be worn by all attending. All AMCOM, PEO Aviation and PEO Missiles and Space employees are encouraged to attend.

Resource managers

The American Society of Military Comptrollers, Redstone Chapter's monthly luncheon meeting is July 12 at 11:30 a.m. at Trinity United Methodist Church, Personal Growth Center. The scheduled speaker is Terry Gerton, AMC G8, who will talk to members about resource management issues. For ticket information, call Marlene Clemons 313-2378 or Lisa Lowry 876-7086.

Civil War discussion

The Tennessee Valley Civil War Round Table will meet July 12 at 6:30 p.m. at 725 Franklin St. Scheduled speaker Gerald Bartig will discuss the failure of Pickett's Charge which was the final attack of the three-day Battle of Gettysburg. The meeting is free and visitors are welcome. Chicken dinner buffet is available at 5:30 for \$6.95. For more information, call 858-6191.

Computer users

The Huntsville PC User Group's Windows/Internet Special Interest Group will meet at July 14 at 9:15 a.m. at the Huntsville-Madison County Senior Center, 2200 Drake Ave. The special interest group leader will be Kevin Wangbickler, HPCUG president. The topic will be of general interest. At 10:45, Jim Offenbecher, a local expert on computer technology,

will discuss finding and downloading old-time radio shows, old cartoons, old movies and old television shows using USENET and other sources. Jim will conclude with a Question and Answer Session on topics of interest to the audience. Visitors are welcome. For more information, call 830-2232.

Retired employees

The National Association of Retired Federal Employees serves those who serve and have served the nation. "NARFE is the only association dedicated to protecting and improving the earned retirement benefits of federal employees, retirees and their survivors," a prepared release said. Huntsville Chapter 443 meets at the Thomas Davidson Senior Center, 2220 Drake Ave., on the second Saturday of each month at 9:30 a.m. For information call 881-4944.

Toastmasters

Tennessee Valley Toastmasters meets the first and third Saturday of each month at 9 a.m. at the Radisson Inn, 8721 Highway 20 West, Madison. For information call 876-8706 or e-mail amy.donlin@us.army.mil.

Strategic speakers

Strategic Speakers Toastmasters Club 6054 meets each Wednesday at 11:30 a.m. in room 3018 of building 5225 (Von Braun Complex). Toastmasters is a non-profit organization that assists with the development of communication and leadership skills. For more information, call C. Purifoy 651-3621 or 313-4696 or e-mail cpurifoy@bellsouth.net.



Miscellaneous

Reserve unit openings

A local Army Reserve detachment doing weekend drills on Redstone Arsenal has openings for computer specialists. The unit seeks prior active duty Soldiers or transfers from other Reserve/National Guard units with a specialty of 25B information systems operators and 42A human resources specialists. For 25B, the unit will consider reclassification action to 25B if you can document with resume your Civilian Acquired Skills to include your education/experience in the follow-

ing computer skills: data base management, programming, networking and telecommunications. Minimum of a secret clearance is required. And you must possess the personal qualifications to pass a SBI background investigation process to obtain a top secret clearance soon. Specialties 74C and 74F have merged into the 25B career group and convert to 25B as well. To schedule an interview, call Master Sgt. Harold Cook 319-8456 or Warrant Officer David Ricketts 955-4026.

Civilian deployment

Civilian employees are needed to support Aviation and Missile Command missions overseas. Deployment opportunities exist in Southwest Asia in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom. Skill sets needed include acquisition, maintenance, supply, quality assurance, engineers, operations officers, logistics and automation, among others. Volunteers must be currently employed by AMCOM. Contractors cannot be considered to fill these positions. Civilians interested in deploying should notify their supervisor and call Eddie Allen 876-4106 or Carl Washington 876-2082. Contractors and other interested people can access www.cpol.army.mil for openings and opportunities for overseas employment.

Surplus sales

Marshall Space Flight Center's surplus property can be purchased through the General Services Administration sales web site. Go to www.gsaauctions.gov, search by State of Alabama; and there you will find items located at MSFC and other federal agencies in Alabama to bid on. For more information, call 544-4667.

Thrift shop

The Thrift Shop, building 3209 on Hercules Road, is open for shopping 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesdays and Wednesdays and 9-5 Thursdays. Walk-in consignment hours are Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 9-12:45. The shop will be open this Saturday from 10-2. Volunteers are needed Tuesdays through Thursdays. Donations are accepted and tax slips are available. For more information, call 881-6992.

See Announcements on page 25

Sidewalk sale

The Thrift Shop is having a sidewalk sale Saturday from 10-2. "Join us for our Customer and Volunteer appreciation day, our way of saying thank you to our customers and volunteers for supporting the military community and Soldiers," a prepared release said. "Come on in for special sales and free food."

Computer classes

Self-paced computer classes are offered at Army Community Service to assist military spouses in learning or enhancing their computer skills. Classes are available in Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook, Access, Publisher and Windows XP. All classes are free and are offered Monday through Friday anytime between 8 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. Certificates will be given after successful completion. Call 876-5397 to pre-register.

Chapel services

Weekly services at Bicentennial Chapel, on Goss Road, include: Weekdays (except Friday) - noon Catholic Mass. Saturday — 5 p.m. Catholic Mass. Sunday — 9:30 a.m. Catholic Mass, 10:45 a.m. CCD, 9:30 a.m. Protestant Sunday School, 11 a.m. Protestant Worship Service. Many Bible studies are throughout the week. For information call 876-2409.

Green to gold

The Army ROTC at the University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana seeks talented young enlisted Soldiers who want to earn baccalaureate degrees. If you are a quality enlisted Soldier with officer potential and have served at least two years on active duty, then you are allowed to voluntarily participate and enroll in Army ROTC through these

Green to Gold Programs. For more information call toll-free (877) 863-4768, e-mail arotc@uiuc.edu, or visit the web site <http://www2.uiuc.edu/unit/armyrotc/>.

Lateral entry

If you are qualified prior service or a member of the National Guard or Reserve and wish to become an officer, the University of Illinois Army ROTC Lateral Entry Program may be for you. The Lateral Entry Program allows eligible students to contract into the Reserve Officer Training Corps as cadets when they are academic juniors, seniors or graduate students with four semesters of coursework remaining before graduation. For more information call toll-free (877) 863-4768, e-mail arotc@uiuc.edu, or visit the web site <http://www2.uiuc.edu/unit/armyrotc/>.

Hawaii tour

Sign up for Redstone Arsenal's Hawaii Tour set for September. This features seven nights and eight days at the Hale Koa Armed Forces Recreation Hotel on Waikiki Beach, just minutes from Honolulu on the island of Oahu. The travel dates are Sept. 19-26 and include roundtrip air fare from Huntsville aboard American Airlines, transfers to and from Honolulu International Airport and partial ocean view rooms at the Hale Koa. Included are escorted tours to the Arizona Memorial and Honolulu City Tour, the Hale Koa's authentic luau and the Polynesian Cultural Center that includes the IMAX movie presentation, luau dinner and evening show, "Horizons." Space is limited, so reserve your spot today. For more information or to sign up, call the Redstone Leisure Travel office 313-0090 or e-mail grace.bennett@redstone.army.mil.

Motorcycle safety

To permanently register a motorcycle on any DoD installation, the Defense Department requires all motorcyclists to complete a Motorcycle Safety Foundation training course. The one-day course is offered free to anyone authorized access to Redstone. Classes are scheduled July 11, 14, 17, 25 and 28. For course information, contact Ralph Harris at 93hdstc@bellsouth.net.

Substance abuse training

The Army's Substance Abuse Training is now online at <https://redasap.redstone.army.mil>. This mandatory training is directed by the Department of Army. After completing the training, the employees can get credit for it through TIPS. For more information, call Ruby Turner 842-9895.

Botanical garden

The Huntsville Botanical Garden is celebrating Armed Forces Week by offering all active military and their families free access to the garden. Military personnel simply need to show their military ID any time during the week of July 15-21 for free admission. For more information, call 830-4447.

SMDC reunion picnic

In honor of its 50th anniversary, the Space and Missile Defense Command will hold

Rocket Announcements

a reunion picnic July 11 at the NASA Picnic Area. Games — softball, volleyball, horseshoes and bingo — begin at 9 a.m. A barbecue luncheon, catered by Gibson's, starts at 11. Cost of the luncheon is \$6.50 for adults, \$4.50 for children. Friday is the deadline for ordering tickets. Contact SMDC at P.O. Box 1500, Attn.: SMDC-FW (Kimbrough), Huntsville, AL 35807-3801. Make checks payable to SMDC Fund and include a self-addressed stamped envelope. For more information, call Phil Patterson 955-1746.

Charity codes

Beginning with the 2007 Combined Federal Campaign, each participating charity will use a new five-digit CFC code assigned by the Office of Personnel Management. Pledges made using the former four-digit codes cannot be honored. OPM is assigning a new code to each participating charity in order to improve administrative efficiencies in the campaign and simplify charity marketing. For more information, call the CFC Office 876-9143.

Commissary update

The Commissary is closed the Fourth of July and reopens Thursday from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

See Announcements on page 27



Russell Moore/Photo Lab

Recycling signs

Huntsville's Green Team held a ceremony last week to recognize Team Redstone and Marshall Space Flight Center for collecting nearly 800 cell phones during the team's cell phone recycling campaign. Garrison commander Col. John Olshefski accepted a \$500 check for Army Emergency Relief as part of the recognition. Operation Green Team, Sprint and the Solid Waste Disposal Authority placed green recycle bins at each of Redstone Arsenal's gates. Approximately 2,000 phones were collected from throughout the city. Green Team director Joy McKee shows the signs that were at each of the recycle locations. Seated from left are Huntsville mayor Loretta Spencer, MSFC Office of Center Operations deputy director Bob Devlin and Olshefski.

Babysitting class

Join Child and Youth Services for its babysitting class July 11-18 from 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at building 1500. This program is for ages 11 and up. It teaches the basic skills needed to baby sit. The cost is \$15, which includes the class book, materials and a certification card. For more information, call 876-3704.

Fall semester signup

Florida Tech Graduate Center, Redstone courses for fall semester begin Aug. 27 at building 5304, room 4326. Class is weekly from 5-8 p.m. at 5304. All master's degree programs are offered online at FLtech@hiwaay.net. If interested call the administrative office 881-7878 or visit room 4326.

Rocket Announcements

Christmas charities

Christmas Charities Year Round will start giving school supplies and clothing July 9. School supplies needed include wide-rule spiral notebooks and paper, protractors, washable Crayola markers, No. 2 pencils, scissors and pencil boxes. Clothing items needed include girls underwear briefs size 6-12 and teenage girl bikinis size 5-8, socks (low cut or no show), jeans size 5-14 with flare legs, boys boxer shorts size 5-16 and socks (no show or low cut). Your help is appreciated. For information call 837-2373.

Aeronautical university

The Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University Huntsville Campus is now registering for the fall term, Aug. 6 to Oct. 7. The center offers fully accredited instruction at both graduate and undergraduate levels in Aviation/Aerospace and Management fields; as well as certificate programs in Logistics, Supply Chain Management, Industrial Management, Occupational Safety and Health, Aviation Safety, and Space Studies. Instruction is available both in the classroom and through Internet courses. Deadline to register is Aug. 3. For more information call 876-9763, visit ERAU Huntsville in the Army Education Center, building 3222, the web site at <http://www.erau.edu/huntsville>, or e-mail huntsville.center@erau.edu.

See Announcements on page 28

Health center update

Fox Army Health Center's commitment to maximize primary care services prompted leadership's decision to consolidate all available resources in an effort to enhance services and increase access to primary care appointments Monday through Friday. Resources expended in providing a four-hour Saturday morning clinic will be realigned into the weekday schedule. Four years of data reveals that the operation of a Saturday clinic decreases the availability of providers and support staff to provide care on weekdays. The realignment of those resources will provide a more robust weekday clinic, according to a Fox release. Effective July 16 the health center will be closed on Saturdays. Health center leadership continues to seek out innovative methods to powerfully deliver primary care to the Soldiers, retirees and their families of the Redstone Arsenal community, the release said.

Holiday closing

Fox Army Health Center will be closed Wednesday, July 4 in observance of the holiday. The health center will be open regular hours the remainder of the week. Advice Nurses are available 24 hours a day at 955-8888 or 1-800-223-9531 to provide care advice and schedule urgent care appointments. Fox has no emergency room or emergency medical services. Dial 911 to activate EMS.



Courtesy photo

Graduating interns

The Integrated Materiel Management Center recognized its spring 2007 graduating Army interns June 27. From left, certificates were presented to: first row, Patricia Jones, Chris Ricketts, Michelle Cameron, Kerrie Washington, Natalie Whitlow, Jaclyn Tippie, Casey Coleman, Brooke Griffith, Tiffanie Dew, Jennifer Gipson, Joyce Gonzales, Jennifer Helton, Karen Thomas; second row, Andrew Clemons, Tiffany Johnson, Brian Click, Kayla Lewis, Queen Utley, Travell Lockhart, Roger Gray, Cory Parks; third row, Nathan Powless, Ben White, Yvonne Rennie, Jeff Robison, Taylor Vinson, Samantha Smith, Danielle Taylor, Tatiana Whitman, David McRee, Jamie Miller, Angela Powless and Silas Martin.

Rocket Announcements

Master's in management

The Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University Huntsville Center is offering a Master of Science in Management program on Redstone Arsenal. Students applying for admission in this program may choose from specializations in Management of Integrated Logistics, Aviation/Aerospace Industrial Management, and a General Management Option among others. Courses are offered in nine-week terms and are available online as well. Instruction is available both in the classroom and through Internet courses. For more information call 876-9763 or visit ERAU Huntsville in the Army Education Center, building 3222.

School readiness day

Tricare Prime beneficiaries enrolled at Fox Army Health Center are invited to participate in School Readiness Day. Sports physicals and school age immunizations will be given at the health center July 14 from 8-11:30 a.m. by appointment only. Parent/guardian must provide school physical paperwork and shot record or old Alabama blue card at the time of the appointment. For more information and to schedule an appointment, call 955-8888.

Pancakes for troops

A pancake breakfast will be held at Apple-

bee's Neighborhood Grill on South Memorial Parkway on Saturday from 7-9:30 a.m. to raise funds for the 128th Military Police Company Family Readiness Group. The 128th is a National Guard unit deployed to Iraq. Its family readiness group sponsors meetings and events to support families as they wait for their Soldiers to return home. Proceeds from the breakfast will be used for the unit's Welcome Home ceremony, which will take place later this year. Tickets to the breakfast are \$5 each. Those who would like to support the 128th and its FRG, but can't attend the breakfast, can donate a ticket to be used by veterans, local police and fire department personnel, and military personnel. Military personnel in uniform can attend the breakfast for free as a token of appreciation for their service. For more information or to buy a ticket, call Jennifer Tresnan 881-0775.

Soldier Show 2007

Morale Welfare and Recreation presents the 2007 Soldier Show on July 17 at 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. and July 18 at 7 p.m. at the Von Braun Concert Hall. Tickets are free and are first come, first serve. Tickets will be available to the Redstone community at the MWR Ticket Office starting July 2. The general public can get tickets from the Huntsville/Madison County Chamber of Commerce starting July 9.

There is a limit of four tickets per person. For more information, call 876-4531 or 955-7399. The Soldier Show is sponsored by the Army National Guard, AT&T and Bill Heard Chevrolet.

PX holiday hours

The Post Exchange will operate with the following hours on the Fourth of July: Main Store, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. All concessions, closed. Furniture store, closed. One-Stop Goss Road, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tire Store, closed. Burger King, closed. Military Clothing, closed. Barber Shop building 3479, closed. Food Court – Anthony's, closed; Cinnabon, closed; Baskin Robins, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Robin Hood, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Church's, closed; and American Eatery, closed.

Women's equality day

Government agencies in Huntsville will observe Women's Equality Day Aug. 23 at 11 a.m. at the Officers and Civilians Club. The keynote speaker is to be announced. During this program, each agency will recognize and present Equal Employment Opportunity awards to employees for outstanding career achievements and employee of the year in the professional and administrative categories. These awards will be presented to women who have demonstrated outstanding achievement during their careers. The EEO Supervisor of the Year Award will be presented to a supervisor or manager for significant contributions to the accomplishment of EEO program goals, i.e., one who

through his or her efforts extended EEO to minorities, women and disabled applicants and employees.

Soldier of year luncheon

Redstone Arsenal's NCO/Soldier of the Year luncheon is July 16 at 11 a.m. at the Officers and Civilians Club. This year's theme is "America Supports You – Our Military Men and Women." Ticket price is \$10. For ticket information call Sgt. 1st Class Monique Mixon, AMCOM EO Office, 876-8648; Sgt. 1st Class Richard James, 59th Ordnance Brigade, 842-9771; Bruce Cline, AMCOM Protocol Office, 955-6925; Julia Story, Garrison Protocol Office, 842-7954; and Priscilla Sanders, 59th Ordnance Brigade Protocol Office, 955-0127.

Latin dance

Sabor Latino invites everyone to the "Ultimate Latin Party" Saturday from 9 p.m. to 2 a.m. at the American Legion, 2900 Drake Ave. Cover charge is \$10. For reservations call Yvonne 783-5756.

Government vehicle operators

Effective Aug. 1, per Army Regulation 600-55, dated June 18, a valid state license and OF 346, U.S. Government Motor Vehicle Operator's Identification Card will be required to operate all tactical and non-tactical government vehicles and forklifts. Effective Aug. 1 to check out a vehicle from the motor pool and/or exchange trip tickets for assigned vehicles

See Announcements on page 29

and equipment, a valid state license and OF 346 must be presented. If the trip ticket is for vehicles or equipment is not listed on the OF 346, dispatchers will not be allowed to exchange trip tickets. For OF 346 requirements call Don Woods 876-3533, of the Drivers License Office or Carl Pack 876-3938, chief of Motor Pool Operations.

Road detour

Martin Road intersection at Patton Road will be closed with detours on the week-ends of July 7, 14 and 21, due to continuing construction of the overpass bridge. Martin Road will be reopened by Monday morning each week.

Sidewalk arts stroll

The third of five Sidewalk Arts Strolls will be held July 19 in Huntsville's historic downtown courthouse square. The Sidewalk Arts Stroll is free to the public

and takes place on the third Thursday of the month. The stroll showcases the works of North Alabama visual and performing artists. The July 19 event features the music of Shelly Williams and Friends — Ivey Joe Milan, George West and Shawn Smith. This jazzy, bluesy, reggae-inspired group will perform at 6 p.m. on the courthouse steps on the west side of the Square. For more information, call Donna Castellano 534-8376.

Blood drives

Red Cross blood drives include the following: July 12 from 7 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at building 4488. July 13 from 7-noon at Corps of Engineers. July 19 from 7 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at SMDC building 5220. July 20 from 8 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at NASA building 4316. July 26 from 7 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Sparkman Center. July 27 from 7:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Missile Defense Agency, 106 Wynn Drive.



Keep storm drains clean
for those downstream!

For further information,
contact the Garrison Environmental Office,
Storm Water Program Manager at 955-8501.



Photo by Sgt. Eliamar Trapp

Winning instructor

Command Sgt. Maj. John Sparks, left, Training and Doctrine Command command sergeant major, presents Sgt. 1st Class Adrain Dudley with a plaque and a coin June 26 for winning the TRADOC Instructor of the Year competition for 2006 in the NCO category. Dudley is assigned to Headquarters & Headquarters Company, 59th Ordnance Brigade and is the senior instructor of the Ordnance Munitions and Electronics Maintenance School's Technical Escort Course.

July 3, 2007 *The Redstone Rocket* Page 30

July 3, 2007